

DETAILED ACTION

At the outset, the Petition filed 9/12/2008 requesting rejoinder of claim 11 is acknowledged. This petition has been referred to the Primary Examiner from the TC Director for treatment as a request for reconsideration. Upon reconsideration, it has been determined that applicants are correct that the subject matter of canceled claim 11 should have been rejoined at time of allowance because claim 7 (and claim 10) encompassed the non-elected invention, i.e., was generic, and claim 11 included all of the limitations of the allowed generic claim. The restriction requirement mailed 8/17/2005 has been withdrawn and the non-elected invention rejoined in view of the presence of an allowed generic claim. However, as defined in 37 CFR 1.121(c)(5), a claim which was previously canceled may only be reinstated by adding the claim as a "new" claim. Accordingly, note the examiner's amendment, below.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Amir N. Penn on 4/22/2009.

The application has been amended as follows:

--Claim 13. (New) A female coupler as set forth in claim 10 further comprising a second urging member for urging said outer movable member from said unlocking position towards said locking position.--

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Aaron M. Dunwoody whose telephone number is 571-272-7080. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:30 am - 4:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Daniel P. Stodola can be reached on 571-272-7087. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Aaron M Dunwoody/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3679

.amd